(d) what steps are being taken to avoid over estimates and curb duty loss?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The customs receipts shortfall of the budget estimates is by Rs. 2035* crore and total duty forgone under export promotion schemes amounted to Rs. 18166* crore during 1999-2000.

(b) The respective figures for the fiscal year 2000-2001 are Rs. 5952* (P) crore and Rs. 21658* (P) crore.

(c) The reduced growth in imports has affected the revenue. The reduction in duty on crude oil and petroleum products (*w.e.f.* 30.09.2000) and abolition of 10 percent surcharge on imports are also the factors affecting customs revenue during the fiscal year 2000-2001.

(d) All possible steps are being taken for better tax realization. These include plugging leakage of revenue on account of undervaluation or commercial frauds, expediting disposal of confiscated or uncleared cargo, expediting finalisation of provisional assessments, expediting pending adjudications and appeals, and simplification of administrations etc. procedures in order to increase tax compliance, etc.

Import of Coins

1004. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no mint in India where coins can be produced;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the coins are imported from foreign countries, if so, the details of such countries;

(c) the total number of coins likely to be imported during the

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* The figures are as per departmental records.
P = Provisional

current financial year together with the denominations of such coins; and

(d) how far the imported coins are cheaper than the country-made coins?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) No, Sir. There are four India Government Mints (IGMs) at Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai and Noida and they are producing coins in various denominations.

(b) Yes, Sir. The coins in denominations of Re.1, Rs.2 and Rs.5 are also being imported to bridge the gap between the domestic demand and the capacity of IGMs to supply. The rupee coins have been imported from the foreign Mints owned by the respective Governments of Russia, Canada, Slovakia, Mexico and the United Kingdom.

(c) During the current financial year about 1940 million pieces (MPCs) of coins are likely to be imported including 650 MPCs of Rs. 5 denomination, 690 MPCs of Rs. 2 denomination and 600 MPCs of Re. 1 denomination.

(d) The imported coins are significantly cheaper as compared to the coins produced by the IGMs.

Revival of weak Co-operative Banks in North-Eastern States

1005. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken up by Government for reviving the weak co-operative banks of the North-Eastern States;

(b) whether it is a fact that most of State Co-operative Banks are unable to take loans from NABARD/RBI; and

(c) the amount overdue to each co-operative banks of North-Eastern States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) National Bank for